



There are Six Closed Areas on the District that prohibit waterfowl hunting during designated time periods.

**Spring Lake**, Savanna, IL, east of river miles 531.6-536.1: Closed to waterfowl hunting year round. Closed to all access from October 1 through the end of the duck season.

**Mesquaki lake / Great River Trail**, south of Savanna, IL, west of Hwy 84 and south of the Plum River: Closed to all waterfowl hunting during the early seasons (teal and goose); 150 yard Closed Area, along the bike trail, is in effect during the regular waterfowl hunting season.

**Frog Pond**, Savanna, IL, west of Hwy. 84 and south of the Plum River: Closed to hunting year round.

**Potter's Marsh Buffer Zone**, Thomson, IL, east of river miles 522.5-525.0: The buffer zone extends 400 yards to the west of Potter's Marsh Blind Management Zone and is closed to waterfowl hunting.

**Pleasant Creek**, north of Sabula, IA, west of river miles 550.0-552.0: Closed to waterfowl hunting year round.

**Elk River**, south of Sabula, IA, west of river miles 528.0-532.2: Closed to waterfowl hunting year round.



For Further information contact:

Upper Mississippi River National Wildlife and Fish Refuge

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<http://midwest.fws.gov/UpperMississippiRiver>



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## 2006 Waterfowl Hunting Regulations



Upper Mississippi River National  
Wildlife and Fish Refuge

Savanna District Pools

12, 13, 14

## Waterfowl Hunting Regulations

### Pools 12,13,14 -Illinois

#### **Early Teal and Early Goose Season –**

Hunters do not have to hunt from an established blind, boat blind or scull boat. Hunters may stand or wade the shoreline to hunt.

#### **Regular Waterfowl Season-**

Waterfowl hunters must hunt from an established legal blind, boat blind, or skull boat. A legal blind is defined to be at least 200 yards distant from any adjacent blind, must be sturdy enough to withstand daily use, must be of platform construction, or a boat blind. All blinds, including boat blinds and scull boats, spaced closer than 200 yards are illegal until the 200 yard spacing requirement is met.

Tag Day, in Illinois, is the first Saturday in August. Blinds cannot be claimed prior to Tag Day which begins at 8:00AM on August 5, 2006.

Blind claiming or selecting is defined as any staking, flagging, or method of identifying an existing blind, blind remnant structure, or potential blind site. The occupancy of a blind structure or potential blind site by either people or personal equipment is also an act of claiming.

A blind site marker must include name, address, date, time, and telephone number of person(s) tagging the blind site. The blind must be completely built and camouflaged by September 1 or the site marker and remaining blind material must be removed.

Blinds may still be constructed after September 1, however, blind site markers and left-over materials cannot be left in place after this date. All remnant blind debris, that is located within a 100 yard radius of a blind, must be cleaned up by the blind builder.

### Pools 12,13,14 - Iowa

Hunters may hunt from a blind, boat blind, scull boat or along the shoreline. Blinds may be built on a first come-first served basis any time of year.

#### Pools 12,13,14 – Illinois and Iowa

An identification card must be placed inside the blind that identifies the builder: name, address and telephone number. Blinds should measure a minimum of 4 feet by 8 feet and may contain a boat hide. Only biodegradable materials can be used in the construction of blinds.

The clearing of any vegetation within 50 yards radius of a blind site is prohibited. Willow, cattail, bulrush, lotus and/or arrowhead may be cut from Refuge lands for camouflage. You cannot bring onto the Refuge (or cut from the Refuge) any non-native plants, including phragmites (giant reed grass), for use as camouflage material.

Blind builders or their hunting partners must occupy their blind one-half hour before the opening shooting time each day to claim the blind for the day. After this time UNOCCUPIED BLINDS WILL BE AVAILABLE TO ANYONE. The disturbing, molesting, or interfering with any person engaged in the pursuit of an authorized activity on the Refuge is prohibited. The use of trained hunting dogs is encouraged while hunting to reduce the loss of crippled waterfowl.

A boat blind must be anchored in a stationary position when in use.

The use / possession of alcohol while hunting is prohibited.

Permittee, or partners, are encouraged to salvage their building materials to help eliminate litter and debris on Refuge lands. All materials remaining after February 15, 2007 are subject to disposal by the Refuge.

#### Lost Mound Unit –

See additional brochure for special regulations in effect at the Lost Mound Unit, formerly Savanna Army Depot, Savanna IL.

## NEW GUIDELINES: PHASE-OUT OF PERMANENT BLINDS AND OVERNIGHT DECOYS.

In accordance with the Upper Miss Refuge's Final Comprehensive Conservation Plan, the following waterfowl hunting Regulations will begin this 2006-07 hunt season on the Savanna District, Mississippi River Pools 12, 13 and 14. These regulations do not apply to the Potter's Marsh Blind Management Zone in Pool 13.

a. The use of permanent blinds and overnight decoys will be phased-out beginning in the 2006-07 hunting season.

b. The time table for phase-out is as follows: the last year for permanent blinds and overnight decoys in Pool 12 is 2006-07; Pool 14 is 2007-08; Pool 13 is 2008-09. This phase-out sequence will allow the greatest number of permanent blind holders (Pool 13) the longest amount of time to find alternative hunting methods. During the phase-out year, both permanent blinds and overnight decoys are allowed.

c. During the phase-out year, all permanent blinds (Illinois and Iowa) must be registered by placing a waterproof identification card inside the blind identifying the hunter's name, address, and telephone number. If blinds are not registered with this information prior to the opening day of the waterfowl hunting season within each respective state, they may be removed by Refuge staff.

d. During the phase-out year, all permanent blind materials, including materials located within a 100 yard radius of the blind, must be removed from the Refuge within 30 days after the close of the waterfowl hunting season. The cutting of wooden support poles or any other blind materials (including boat hide) at the water line is not allowed, you must remove all materials from the site to prevent a boating hazard.

e. A Notice of Violation will be issued to the registered blind holder if all permanent blind (and boat hide) materials located within a 100 yard radius of the blind are not removed from the Refuge within 30 days after the close of the waterfowl hunting season during the phase-out year.